

# The Colored American

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## A TIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER

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INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

Subscriptions may be sent by postoffice money order, express or by registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact, all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however, unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send or instructions.

For Sale by all News Dealers.

### ADVERTISING RATES.

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**THE COLORED AMERICAN,**  
**EDWARD E. COOPER, MANAGER**

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1900.

### SEVERAL KINDS OF NEGROES.

The Victoria Guide, published 'way down in Texas, by the peppery "Thede" Baughman, sharpened up his snicker snee last week and went after several varieties of Negroes who, according to his theory, are drawbacks to the race.

He paid his respects in vigorous fashion to "rich" Negroes who won't put their money into enterprises for the benefit of the race; northern Negroes whose "highest ambition is to wear fine clothes and to eat with white people at a first class hotel." "Satisfied Negroes," "prayer-meeting Negroes" "picnic Negroes," Texas Negroes, who live in Washington, D. C. "clean spittoons for a living" and while away their idle moments in crap games and in "taking on a mental veneering in Howard University.

Now will somebody be good?

These are the days when the festive candidate for positions on the new Board of Education finds an abundance of time to attend the literaries, miscellaneous churches and church societies that had been "scratched" for a long time, and throws down silver dollars with a loud ring on the collection table. The candidate has a bland smile and a hearty handshake, however, that never fails to make a hit with us.

When we are brought to the bitter realization that we are to have no baseball here this season, the conviction kind o'steals over us that, after all the kind we did have was better than nothing. We could at least see the visiting clubs play the game. We have "that lonesome feeling," and refuse to be comforted.

The concessions embodied in the school bill illustrate what public sentiment can do when its force is intelligently directed.

What if we are to have a Board of Education and it should re-elect Superintendent Cook.

No Afro-American editor has yet been seduced by the Sheldon mania, and we may not have an opportunity to see a Negro organ run "as Jesus would have done it."

We Americans are a funny people. We shed briny tears over the outraged Dreyfus; we go into an expensive war to free suffering Cuba; we deal extravagantly in maudlin sympathy for the "patriotic" Boers; yet, as a nation, we haven't a word to say when a black American is butchered or burned by a mob of savages upon the soil of the famed "land of the free and the home of the brave." Oh yes; we are, indeed, a funny people.

The man nowadays who isn't elected a delegate to something or other isn't in it a little bit.

The Colored American is not advertising any particular corporation when it suggests that every Negro, who has no fortune save strong arms and a moderate position, should take out a policy in some reliable life insurance company. Life insurance is the poor man's legacy to his family. It has kept shelter over the heads of thousands of widows and orphans when the father has been called hence, leaving scarcely enough to pay the expenses of a decent funeral. A hint to the wise, in this connection, ought to be sufficient.

Those who delight in spectacular effects and melodramatic climaxes find Washington an ideal home about now.

Director Merriam is getting around to his colored friends at a highly encouraging gait.

A most encouraging feature of our racial development is our progress in manufacturing. The work of our hands is the tangible evidence of a well-directed mind. We are becoming producers as well as consumers.

If you think you have merit that deserves recognition ask for or take what you want, or keep hammering away until you get it.

Constitutional or unconstitutional there are worse evils than the Porto Rican tariff.

Our contention that the High School Commencement should be held at the Grand Opera House, has struck a responsive chord. Everybody who is interested in the cause of education should be given an opportunity to attend, and the largest hall available should be secured for this inspiring occasion.

### NO PENSIONS FOR EX SLAVES.

Despite the widespread warnings of the press, both white and colored, there are still some people foolish enough to pay over their hard cash to sundry confidence sharks who run up and down the country pretending that Congress is about to grant pensions to ex-slaves. No such thing will be done in this or any other generation and who ever asserts the contrary is a knave, a humbug or worse.

The sprightly Afro-American Ledger, edited by the hustling John H. Murphy, will publish a boom issue shortly. And by the way, unless all signs fail, Editor Murphy will be the next secretary of the A. M. E. Sunday School Union.

There are numerous evidences that the Hon. Grover Cleveland would not object to breaking back into politics. Probably there isn't another run in the adipose Princetonian, but he has lots of admirers among that class of colored people who admire backbone in emergencies when the rights of the masses are imperilled.

A government that fosters caste, and enforces tyrannical regulations is not entitled to any sympathy at the hands of a republic. We are talking about the Boers. They are in for a good trouncing, and British victory means an era of reconstruction and reform throughout South Africa.

Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines are a part of the United States. They are territories in process of civil organization—not colonies. Our country is a republic, not an empire. Put these points down as a "starter."

### OUR INDUSTRIAL CONDITION

Able Set Forth at Second Baptist Lyceum by A. F. Hilyer a Leading Statistician—Observations and Conclusions Derived From a Trip Through the Productive Southland.

Mr. A. F. Hilyer, who stands in the foremost rank of Afro-American statisticians was the attraction at the Second Baptist Lyceum last Sunday afternoon. The house was filled to overflowing, and the brilliant Easter costumes added radiance to the occasion. His subject was taken from observations in the South which he visited recently to inquire into the industrial condition of our people under the direction of the United States Census Bureau. This information is to be used as a part of the Negro exhibit at the Paris Exposition and will be of the greatest benefit to the race. From Mr. Hilyer's observations he finds that the colored people in the South are engaging in every form of industry including mining, manufacturing, merchandising and in the more ordinary industries. Interesting statistics were presented showing the material progress made by our people, especially in the iron industry. The number of homes and farms owned by our people in the South was another interesting feature of Mr. Hilyer's observation. His statistics show that nearly one half of the colored families live in their own homes or on farms, the proportion being in our favor as compared with whites who own or mortgage. From a number of letters received from manufacturers, mill owners and employers of colored help, it was seen that colored men are just as proficient as white men when given equal opportunity. He warmly praised the great work of development being carried on at Tuskegee, Hampton and Normal. The average wages paid was also an interesting feature of Mr. Hilyer's observation, showing that colored people in the South, engaged in skilled occupations, receive good pay for their services. The advance of women in industrial callings was encouragingly put, showing their gradual emancipation from domestic service. Mr. Hilyer found that doctors, undertakers and druggists were the most prosperous of our men in business.

The speaker was warmly applauded for the splendid service rendered the race in securing such important data which can be used to great advantage to the race.

The singing by Miss Eva E. Bell was highly appreciated.

Lieut. R. E. S. Toomey recited an original poem, "Self-Effacement,"

which was most admirably adapted to the occasion, and which gave evidence of a high grade of thought and poetical genius on the part of the author.

### DRAWING TO A CLOSE.

Bethel Literary and Historical Association Rounding Out the Most Brilliant Season in its Nineteen Years of Existence—The Debt Washington Owes to Prof. Richards—Announcement.

Bethel Literary and Historical Association is rounding out the most successful and in the truest sense the most profitable season it has enjoyed in its nineteen years of existence. Almost alone Prof. W. H. Richards has administered the office of President—not that he has lacked support, encouragement and sympathy—but because the broad plan of work laid out was so thoroughly his, and its proper execution depended so completely upon his sagacity, energy and application, that the official board has been more than content to indorse his every suggestion and action and back him up at every turn with the fine force of their moral and financial strength. Thus compactness of organization, intellectual affinity, and a level headed executive have combined to assure Bethel's premiership among the Afro American literary associations of the country, and largely augment its power for good. The attendance has been excellent, no matter what the attraction or the character of the master, for the people have come to reserve Tuesday nights for Bethel running no risk of missing what they know will be a treat of the richest variety. As an educator on general lines Bethel occupies a place in this community not less highly honored than Howard University. Prof. Richards cannot be too heartily commended for his signal services during the past two years, and all join in the hope that he will accept a reelection to the presidency on the 8th of May.

For the remainder of the season the following schedule is announced:

April 24.—Topic—The Negro. (a) In Africa—Rev. Albert P. Miller, Sometime Missionary to Africa. (b) In the West Indies—Mr. Walter B. Hayson. (c) In South America—Rev. Alexander C. Garner. (d) His Probable Future in the United States. Five minute voluntary addresses.

May 1.—Topic—Basis of Progress. 1. Agriculture—Prof. Wm. H. H. Hart. 2. Industry—Hon. Henry P. Cheatham. 3. Commerce—Hon. Judson W. Lyons.

May 8.—Address. Prof. James B. Dudley, President Agricultural and Mechanical College, Greensboro, N. C. Election of Officers.

May 15.—Topic—Lessons From the Life of Dr. J. C. Price. Hon. John C. Dancy.

May 22.—Closing Address—Professor Booker T. Washington, Principal Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and Industrial Institute.

### "A Quibble Party."

The H. H. Committee of the Woman's League will hold a "Quibble Party" next Friday evening at the residence of Mrs. W. H. Conner, 1034 R street, northwest, for the benefit of the Day Nursery. The committee is constituted as follows: Mrs. Ida D. Bailey, chairman; Miss M. F. Quander, secretary; Dr. S. M. Frazer, treasurer; Mesdames O. M. White, W. H. Conner, A. J. Cooper, W. H. Naylor; Misses Florence M. Williams, Lula E. Love, Ella D. Barrier, and A. T. Howard. The ladies extend a cordial invitation to the charitably inclined people of the city to attend.